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The Division of Science Resources Statistics (SRS) fulfills the legislative mandate of the National Science Foundation Act to ...

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To carry out this mandate, SRS designs, supports, and directs periodic surveys as well as a variety of other data collections and research projects. These surveys yield the materials for SRS staff to compile, analyze, and disseminate quantitative information about domestic and international resources devoted to science, engineering, and technology.

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LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

Dear Mr. President,

It is my honor to transmit to you the statistical report, *Federal Science and Engineering Support to Universities, Colleges, and Nonprofit Institutions: Fiscal Year 2001*, in accordance with the National Science Foundation Act of 1950, as amended.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Rita R. Colwell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Rita R. Colwell
Director

The President
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

FOREWORD

Institutions of higher education, the major source of the Nation's scientists and engineers, perform about one-half of the Nation's basic research. Therefore, the level, distribution, and characteristics of Federal academic support are of much interest to officials at Federal, State, and local levels and in nongovernmental sectors.

The National Science Foundation Act of 1950, as amended, requires that the Foundation "... initiate and maintain a program for the determination of the total amount of money for scientific and engineering research, including money allocated for the construction of the facilities wherein such research is conducted, received by each educational institution and appropriate nonprofit organization in the United States, by grant, contract, or other arrangement from agencies of the Federal Government, and to report annually thereon to the President and the Congress."

To fulfill this requirement, the Foundation has utilized the data collection system originally designed by the Committee on Academic Science and Engineering of the Federal Council for Science and Technology. The Foundation annually collects statistical data from the 19 Federal agencies that account for virtually all support

for science and engineering (S&E) research and development at educational institutions. Data are also collected on these agencies' obligations to nonprofit institutions.

Since its inception, this survey system has been the sole source of data on Federal funding to individual institutions for S&E activities and therefore attracts a wide audience. These data provide information that enables users to examine patterns of support for individual institutions over time and to compare such patterns with those of other institutions.

We are grateful for the continued cooperation of the responsible staff members in the participating agencies, and we appreciate their efforts to assist us in ensuring the quality of their data submissions.

Lynda T. Carlson
Director
Division of Science Resources Statistics
National Science Foundation

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